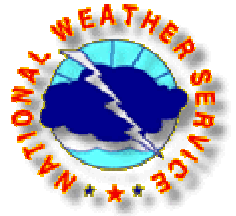


**Skywarn News –
National Weather Service, Tallahassee
October 2, 2002**



Greetings to all of our customers, partners and volunteers!

This newsletter is the first of what will be regular issuances from your National Weather Service Forecast Office in Tallahassee. Our goal is to provide you with frequent updates on activities that relate to our operations and services. We plan on issuing these newsletters at least quarterly, but may send out brief updates more frequently. Good communication is a two way street, so please, let us know how we are doing!

We want to keep the newsletter informal while being informative. We may want to highlight a recent significant weather or hydrological event. Want to know what we are doing to improve our tornado, flood, or other warnings? We will provide the details here. Curious about our Skywarn spotter program? This newsletter will serve to keep the Skywarn spotters informed. Interested in the latest technology that the NWS employs to measure, detect, and analyze our atmosphere and groundwater? We will include brief articles and will give you links to interesting sources on the Web.

Important change to the our Hazardous Weather Outlook -

The Hazardous Weather Outlook (HWO) will continue to be sent at around 6am Eastern (5am Central) each morning and as needed during developing weather threats. Beginning October 1st, the Hazardous Weather Outlook has it's own product I.D. issued under "HWO" versus the previous "SPS" ID. Please note that the "SPS" product is still very important and will be used to convey important weather updates. Look for both the HWO and the SPS on our website: www.srh.noaa.gov/tlh .

WMO ID: FLUS42 KTAE Product ID: HWOTLH

For more information, please read our public information statement at:

www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notifications/scn02-43hwo.txt

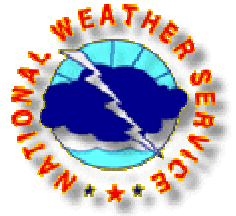
Other changes to the HWO include:

- The HWO will be now have a day 2 through day 7 period.
- The HWO will include instructions to spotters.
- The HWO will have a statement "No hazardous weather expected at this time" if weather hazards are not expected.

Skywarn Spotter training –

Spotter training continued over the last few months. On July 18th, I presented advanced training to Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club in Crawfordville, Florida (SPARC). Check out the club's website at: www.nettally.com/sparc/sparc.htm .

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Skywarn and Amateur radio-

The Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society (TARS) deserves our sincere thanks for all the assistance in setting up our HAM equipment at the new NWS Forecast Office at FSU. Many hours of work went into the installation of new cables, and mounting of antennas.

Our office has recently purchased a new High Frequency (HF) transceiver to provide new capabilities in our HAM communications. With HF, we will be able to supplement the normal 2 meter network in case of emergencies. Our friends at TARS are planning to again help out later this week with the installation of the HF antenna.

Dave Davis, WA7WES, the Leon County, ARES Emergency Coordinator, has taken great initiatives to rejuvenate the cooperation between the NWS and the various HAM clubs around the NWS Tallahassee service area. Thanks to Dave, in the works are a new Skywarn Net to begin this month.

StormReady –

Mitchell County, Georgia was recognized as StormReady on August 13th, 2002. Bob Goree presented the recognition at the county Board of Commissioners meeting. Congratulations, for a job well done!

Want weather warnings? Try EMWIN –

EMWIN stands for the Emergency Management Weather Information Network. The system is suited for emergency operations centers and other “warning points” such as sheriff’s dispatch centers. The main advantage of EMWIN is it’s capability to almost immediately receive watches, warnings, or advisories, alert the user, and print a hardcopy. The data is received with a satellite receiver. There is no charge for the service. All you need is the hardware and software. Interested? Go to the following web page for a list of EMWIN product vendors – <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/im/more.htm>

You may contact our office for further details.

NOAA Weather Radio update –

Our new station near Ashburn, Ga (Turner County) is up and broadcasting. The frequency is 162.450 mhz. The station officially serves Turner, Worth, Tift, Irwin, Crisp, Ben Hill and Wilcox Counties.

***Thank you for reading!
Please visit our web site and email or call us
with your comments, questions or other feedback.***